

******UPDATE******

**Automated Communications Exchange System - ACES
Release Notes - November 13, 2002**

On Monday, November 11, 2002 a new release of ACES was implemented. The following information was omitted from the first notification.

COBRA Transactions:

ACES is currently scheduled for another release in December 2002. Included in that release will be "New COBRA" functionality. The November 11, 2002 release updated part of the code that will be necessary for the full COBRA functionality to work in the December release. Due to the deployment of this new code, those users currently submitting COBRA transactions through ACES will notice that their COBRA transactions will no longer fall to a Manual Correction for the Health Benefits staff to update. The new code will cause the COBRA transactions to fall to an Agency Error, which the user will not be able to fix.

THEREFORE, PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT ANY COBRA TRANSACTIONS THROUGH ACES UNTIL NOTIFIED TO DO SO.

If you are not already doing so, please submit all COBRA transactions by hard copy (HBD-85) to the CalPERS Health Benefit Services Division by mail.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the ACES Employer Assistance Center at 1-888-Cal-PERS (225-7377). Thank you.